

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR
DESIGN
PATENT APPLICATION**
(37 CFR 1.63)

Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing

OR

Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

FEB 19 2002

Attorney Docket Number P03958US1

First Named Inventor CATE, Stephen, et al.

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number 09/674,399

Filing Date 10/31/2000

Art Unit

Examiner Name

As the below named Inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original and first inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

METHOD AND MEANS FOR FILLING NATURAL CASING SAUSAGES

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

 Is attached hereto

OR

 was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) 10/31/2000 as United States Application Number or PCT InternationalApplication Number PCT/US00/02028 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) 01/26/2000 (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached? YES	Certified Copy Attached? NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

 Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

[Page 1 of 2]

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

PTO/SB/01 (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Direct all correspondence to: Customer Number
or Bar Code Label OR Correspondence address below

DONALD H. ZARLEY

Name

CAPITAL SQUARE - 400 LOCUST STREET, SUITE 200

Address

DES MOINES	IA	50309
City	State	ZIP
USA	515-558-0200	515-558-7790
Country	Telephone	Fax

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR: A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name (first and middle (if any))	Family Name or Surname
---	---------------------------

Inventor's Signature	Date
-------------------------	------

Residence: City	State	Country	Citizenship
-----------------	-------	---------	-------------

Mailing Address

City	State	ZIP	Country
------	-------	-----	---------

NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR: A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name MARCELLINUS F. (first and middle (if any))	Family Name or Surname	OTTO
--	---------------------------	------

Inventor's Signature	Date
-------------------------	------

ROSMALEN Residence: City	State	NETHERLANDS Country	NE Citizenship
-----------------------------	-------	------------------------	-------------------

ANNA BLAMANSTR 66

Mailing Address

ROSMALEN City	State	ZIP	NE Country
------------------	-------	-----	---------------

Additional inventors are being named on the _____ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.

(Page 2 of 2)

Combined Declaration for Patent Application and Power of Attorney (Continued)
 (Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

Attorney's Docket Number
 P03958US1

DEC 26 2000

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration number) Donald H. Zarley, Reg. #18,543; Bruce W. McKee, Reg. #19,651; Dennis L. Thomte, Reg. #22,497; Michael G. Voorhees, Reg. #25,715; Edmund J. Sease, Reg. #24,741; Mark D. Hansing, Reg. #30,643; Kirk M. Hartung, Reg. #31,021; Daniel J. Cosgrove, Reg. #36,770; Michael R. Crabb, Reg. #37,298; Heidi Sease Nebel, Reg. #37,719; Wendy K. Marsh, Reg. #39,705; Jeffrey D. Harty, Registration No. 40,639; James A. Napier, Registration No. 42,025; Mark Ziegelbein, Registration No. 43,307; Timothy J. Zarley, Registration No. P-45,253; and Patty L. Ades, Registration No. P-44,496.

Send correspondence to:

DONALD H. ZARLEY
 ZARLEY, MCKEE, THOMTE, VOORHEES & SEASE
 801 Grand Avenue, Suite 3200
 Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2721

Direct Telephone Calls to:

(Name and telephone number)
 DONALD H. ZARLEY
 515-288-3667

2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <u>LEBSACK</u>	FIRST GIVEN NAME Kenneth	SECOND GIVEN NAME L.
6	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <u>Ankeny</u>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Iowa	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP US
7	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 914 NE 15 th Street	CITY Ankeny	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Iowa 50021 US
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <u>ENKLAAR</u>	FIRST GIVEN NAME Rudolf	SECOND GIVEN NAME P. T.
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <u>Woerden</u>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Netherlands	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP NE
8	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Blazer 6, 3448WD	CITY Woerden	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Netherlands
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <u>THOMAS</u>	FIRST GIVEN NAME Jay	SECOND GIVEN NAME D.
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <u>Danville</u>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY California	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP US
9	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 23 Volterra Court	CITY Danville	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY California 94526 US
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
1	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
0	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
1	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
1	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
1	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
2	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

O P E
S C A
P A T E N T
T R A D E M A R K
O F F I C E
6 0 V

Combined Declaration for Patent Application and Power of Attorney (Continued)
(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

Attorney's Docket Number
P03958US1

DEC 26 2000

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration number) Donald H. Zarley, Reg. #18,543; Bruce W. McKee, Reg. #19,651; Dennis L. Thomte, Reg. #22,497; Michael G. Voorhees, Reg. #25,715; Edmund J. Sease, Reg. #24,741; Mark D. Hansing, Reg. #30,643; Kirk M. Hartung, Reg. #31,021; Daniel J. Cosgrove, Reg. #36,770; Michael R. Crabb, Reg. #37,298; Heidi Sease Nebel, Reg. #37,719; Wendy K. Marsh, Reg. #39,705; Jeffrey D. Harty, Registration No. 40,639; James A. Napier, Registration No. 42,025; Mark Ziegelbein, Registration No. 43,307; Timothy J. Zarley, Registration No. P-45,253; and Patty L. Ades, Registration No. P-44,496.

Send correspondence to:
DONALD H. ZARLEY
ZARLEY, MCKEE, THOMTE, VOORHEES & SEASE
801 Grand Avenue, Suite 3200
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2721

Direct Telephone Calls to:
(Name and telephone number)
DONALD H. ZARLEY
515-288-3667

2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <u>CATE</u>	FIRST GIVEN NAME <u>Stephen</u>	SECOND GIVEN NAME <u>H.</u>
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <u>Johnston</u>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY <u>Iowa</u>	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <u>US</u>
1	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 6016 Redbud Court	CITY <u>Johnston</u>	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Iowa 50131 US
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <u>OTTOW</u>	FIRST GIVEN NAME <u>Marcellinus</u>	SECOND GIVEN NAME <u>Franciscus</u>
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <u>Rosmalen</u>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY <u>Netherlands</u>	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <u>NE</u>
2	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Anna Blamanstr 66	CITY 5242 EG Rosmalen	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY The Netherlands
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <u>HERGOTT</u>	FIRST GIVEN NAME <u>Steven</u>	SECOND GIVEN NAME <u>P.</u>
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <u>West Des Moines</u>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY <u>Iowa</u>	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <u>US</u>
3	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 5113 Wistful Vista Drive	CITY <u>West Des Moines</u>	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Iowa 50265 US
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <u>BASILE, II</u>	FIRST GIVEN NAME <u>Vincent</u>	SECOND GIVEN NAME <u>L.</u>
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <u>West Des Moines</u>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY <u>Iowa</u>	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <u>US</u>
4	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 233 24 th Street	CITY <u>West Des Moines</u>	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Iowa 50265 US
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <u>SIMPSON</u>	FIRST GIVEN NAME <u>Michael</u>	SECOND GIVEN NAME <u>S.</u>
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <u>Norwalk</u>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY <u>Iowa</u>	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <u>US</u>
5	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 4935 Wakonda Drive	CITY <u>Norwalk</u>	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Iowa 50211 US
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <u>HAMBLIN</u>	FIRST GIVEN NAME <u>David</u>	SECOND GIVEN NAME
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <u>Norwalk</u>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY <u>Iowa</u>	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <u>US</u>
6	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 5213 Clearwater Drive	CITY <u>Norwalk</u>	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Iowa 50211 US

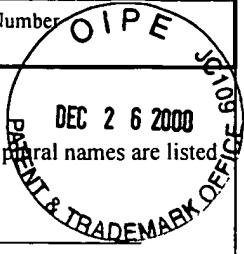
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Combined Declaration for Patent Application and Power of Attorney
 (Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

Attorney's Docket Number
 P03958US1

O I P E

DEC 26 2000



As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

METHOD AND MEANS FOR FILLING NATURAL CASING SAUSAGES

the specification of which (check only one item below)

is attached hereto.

was filed as United States application

Serial No. 09/674,399

on OCTOBER 31, 2000

and was amended

on _____ (if applicable).

was filed as PCT international application

Number PCT/US00/02028

on JANUARY 26, 2000

and was amended under PCT Article 19

on JULY 25, 2000 (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119:

COUNTRY (if PCT indicate PCT)	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119	
			YES	NO

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112. I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

**PRIOR U.S. APPLICATIONS OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S. FOR BENEFIT
UNDER 35 U.S.C. 120:**

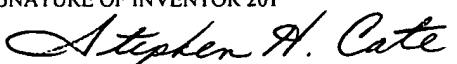
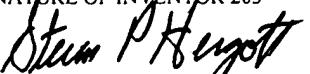
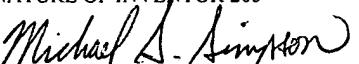
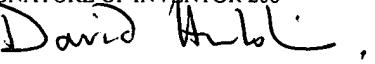
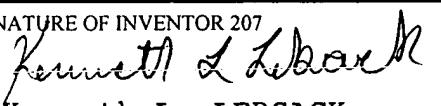
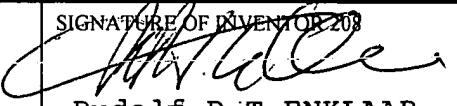
U.S. APPLICATIONS		STATUS (Check one)		
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED
PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.				
PCT APPLICATION NO.	PCT FILING DATE	U.S. SERIAL NUMBERS ASSIGNED (if any)		

Combined Declaration for Patent Application and Power of Attorney (Continued)
 (Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

Attorney's Docket Number
 P03958US1

DEC 26 2000



SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201  Stephen H. CATE	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202 Marcellinus Franciscus OTTOW
DATE , 2000	DATE , 2000
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203  Steven P. HERGOTT	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 204  Vincent L. BASILE, II
DATE Dec 7 , 2000	DATE Dec 6 , 2000
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 205  Michael S. SIMPSON	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 206  David HÄMBLIN
DATE , 2000	DATE Dec 6 , 2000
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 207  Kenneth L. LEBSACK	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 208  Rudolf P.T. ENKLAAR
DATE Dec 7 , 2000	DATE Dec 15 , 2000
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 209  Jay D. THOMAS	
DATE Dec 15 , 2000	

End of Combined Declaration for Patent Application and Power of Attorney